

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/617,946	GLADNEY, RICHARD F.
	Examiner Robert G. Santos	Art Unit 3673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to the papers filed on 7/21/2005, 9/06/2005 and on 10/13/2005.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23, 26, 29, 30, 32-42 and 44, now renumbered as claims 1-38.
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*
  - c)  None
 of the:
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 07212005, 09062005
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

  
**ROBERT G. SANTOS**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

**REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The examiner respectfully agrees with Applicant's arguments on pages 9 and 10 of his amendment stating that none of the prior art, taken either singly or in combination, is seen to teach or suggest the use of a mattress assembly *constructed substantially of plastic material* and comprising the particular structural arrangement of a mattress foundation further comprising a generally planar and essentially rigid top surface having an upper side and a lower side, the lower side of the top surface *including at least one reinforcing fin oriented perpendicularly to the lower side and extending along a portion of the lower side*; at least one essentially rigid sidewall having a lower edge and at least one pair of grooves disposed on opposing portions of the at least one sidewall, the sidewall extending substantially along the perimeter of the lower side of the top surface and depending downwardly from the top surface; and at least one brace connecting opposing portions of the at least one sidewall and having end sections configured to latchingly engage with the grooves, as explicitly recited in Applicant's independent claims 1 and 42. With regards to the prior art, Gaboury et al. '397 teaches the use of a plastic bed foundation provided with a plurality of identical support braces (26) as opposed to teaching the use of a mattress foundation having the distinct structural features of at least one reinforcing *fin* included in and extending along a portion of the lower side of the mattress foundation top surface and at least one brace connecting opposing portions of the at least one mattress foundation sidewall as specifically recited in Applicant's claims. Hence, it is considered that the application is currently in full and proper condition for allowance.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert G. Santos whose telephone number is (571) 272-7048. The examiner can normally be reached on Tues-Fr and first Mondays, 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather C. Shackelford can be reached on (571) 272-7049. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Robert G. Santos  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3673

R.S.  
November 14, 2005